



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (*NOAA*)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - July 25, 2002

- ***In the West***, showers across the ***Intermountain region*** continue to ease irrigation requirements and provide limited relief from long-term drought. In the ***Northwest***, very warm, dry weather favors winter wheat harvesting and the development of irrigated small grains, but is further stressing dryland summer crops.
- ***On the Plains***, hot weather (today's high temperatures are forecast to reach or exceed 100 degrees F from ***Kansas southward***) continues to severely stress pastures and dryland summer crops, particularly on the ***central High Plains***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, highly beneficial showers dot ***western portions of the region***, providing localized relief to heat- and drought-stressed corn and soybeans. In the ***eastern Corn Belt***, temperatures (forecast to range from 80 to 90 degrees F today) remain favorable for reproductive summer crops, but topsoil moisture is extremely limited.
- ***In the South***, beneficial showers continue to aid pastures and summer crops from the ***lower Mississippi Valley eastward***. Meanwhile, hot weather is increasing the moisture demands of summer crops in the ***western Gulf Coast region***, where today's highs are forecast to range from 95 to 105 degrees F.

Outlook: Periods of rain are likely along a stationary front draped across the ***Delta, Tennessee Valley, and Southeast***. Below-normal temperatures will prevail in the ***Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic States***, while heat will intensify across the ***Plains and Corn Belt***. However, showers will temper the effect of heat across the ***northern Plains and Midwest***. Mostly dry conditions are expected in the ***southern Plains, Great Basin, and Pacific Northwest***, but monsoon showers persist in the ***Southwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for July 30 - August 3 calls for above-normal temperatures across the ***eastern two-thirds of the nation*** and cooler-than-normal weather along the ***West Coast***. Above-normal rainfall is forecast for the ***northern Rockies*** and portions of the ***Gulf Coast region***, but below-normal rainfall is expected in the ***Southwest and Northeast***.

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